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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/679,114	10/03/2003	Brian E. Johnson	65783-0032	2226
10291	7590	05/18/2005		EXAMINER PALMER, PHANT H
RADER, FISHMAN & GRAUER PLLC 39533 WOODWARD AVENUE SUITE 140 BLOOMFIELD HILLS, MI 48304-0610			ART UNIT 2874	PAPER NUMBER

DATE MAILED: 05/18/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b>	<b>Applicant(s)</b>
	10/679,114	JOHNSON ET AL.
	<b>Examiner</b>	<b>Art Unit</b>
	PHAN T.H. PALMER	2874

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

#### Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 03 October 2003.
- 2a) This action is FINAL.                    2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

#### Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-37 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-5,8,10,12,13,15-20,22,24-26 and 32-37 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) 6,7,9,11,14,21,23 and 27-31 is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

#### Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on 03 October 2003 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

#### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) All    b) Some \* c) None of:
  1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

*Phan T. H. Palmer*  
PHAN T. H. PALMER  
PRIMARY EXAMINER

05/12/2005

#### Attachment(s)

- 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 10/03/2003.

- 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

**DETAILED ACTION**

1. Applicant's cooperation is requested in correcting any error of which applicant may become aware in the specification.

***Information Disclosure Statement***

2. The information disclosure statement submitted on 10/03/2003, has been considered by the examiner and made of record. See attached form PTO-1449.

***Drawings***

3. This application has been filed with formal drawings.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-5, 8, 10, 12-13, 15-20, 22, 24-26, and 32-37 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Shirakawa (6,390,687 B1).

The Shirakawa reference discloses in figures 2, 3, and 20, a device for coupling a ferrule (31) of a fiber optic cable (25) to a fiber optic transceiver (FOT) device (153, 154), comprising:

- a connector body or housing (141) having an interior cavity that opens outwardly through one side of said body, along with first and second end walls having at least first and second generally aligned openings, respectively, that communicate with said cavity;
- a guide member or adapter (32) having an elongated guide channel, said guide channel being configured to receive at least a portion of the ferrule (31) there through, said guide member being configured to be inserted into said connector body and secured therein;
- wherein said connector body and said guide member interact with each other and the ferule in such a manner as to secure the ferule from any substantial movement relative to said connector body (141).

With regard to claim 1, the Shirakawa reference fully discloses the claimed invention.

With regard to claim 2, wherein the connector body (141) and the guide member (32) secure the ferrule (31) in such a position that a tip of the ferrule is readily aligned with an optical interface section of the FOT device (153, 154) is disclosed in the Shirakawa reference (see figure 2).

With regard to claim 3, wherein at least a portion of said connector body (141) is configured to be inserted into and removably secured inside a housing, said housing having a fiber optic transceiver device FOT (153, 154), is disclosed in the Shirakawa reference (see figure 2).

With regard to claim 4, wherein said tip of the ferrule is coupled with

said optical interface of said FOT device when said connector body is removably secured inside said housing, is disclosed in the Shirakawa reference (see figure 2).

With regard to claim 5, wherein at least a portion of the ferrule is housed within said elongated guide channel of said guide member in such a position that a tip of the ferrule extends outward through said second opening of said connector body, is disclosed in the Shirakawa reference (see figure 2).

With regard to claim 8, wherein said guide member substantially secures the ferrule from forward-directed movement within said elongated guide channel, and said connector body substantially secures the ferrule from backwards-directed movement within said elongated channel, is disclosed in the Shirakawa reference (see figure 20).

With regard to claims 10, 12-20, 22, 24-26, and 32-37, the limitations of these claims are disclosed in the Shirakawa reference (see figures 2, 3, and 20).

#### ***Allowable Subject Matter***

4. Claims 6-7, 9, 11, 14, 21, 22-23, and 27-31 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

The Shirakawa reference does not disclose the device wherein the second opening of said connector body is generally elongated in shape, with one end of said elongated second opening being of lesser diameter than an opposite end of said elongated second opening, as discloses in claims 6, 7, 14, 23, and 29-31.

The Shirakawa reference does not disclose the device, further comprising a ridge that extends outwardly from an underside of said connector body at such a position that upon securing said guide member into said connector body, said ridge extends down through an opening in said elongated channel at a position along the ferrule located rearward of a shoulder on the ferrule extending axially outward, wherein interaction between said ridge and said shoulder secures the ferrule from any substantial backwards-directed movement, as discloses in claims 9, 11, 21, 27, and 28.

#### CONTACT INFORMATION

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to PHAN T.H. PALMER whose telephone number is (571) 272-2354. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, RODNEY B. BOVERNICK can be reached on (571) 272-2344. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Art Unit: 2874

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

**PTHP  
05/12/2005**

*Phan T. H. Palmer*  
**PHAN T. H. PALMER**  
**PRIMARY EXAMINER**